

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OUAGAD 00305 302137Z

67

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /088 W

----- 112105

R 301500Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0905

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UV

SUBJ: PRESIDENT LAMIZANA ANNOUNCES DECISION TO
CHANGE GOVERNMENT

REF: OUAGADOUGOU 0256

1. IN WHAT WAS DESCRIBED BY LOCAL PRESS AS "SOLEMN DECLARATION", PRESIDENT LAMIZAN ANNOUNCED EVENING JANUARY 29 THAT HE HAD DECIDED TO MAKE FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT. THE NEW TEAM, WHICH IS TO BE COMPOSED OF ONE THIRD MILITARY OFFICERS AND TWO THIRDS CIVILIANS, WILL BE NAMED BEFORE THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK OF FEBRUARY.

2. THE PRESIDENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL SHORTLY APPOINT A "SPECIAL COMMISSION" TO REVIEW SUGGESTIONS AND ADVISE RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT DURING RECENT CONSULTATIONS AND TO DRAW UP PROGRAM FOR SOLUTION OF CURRENT

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PAGE 02 OUAGAD 00305 302137Z

POLITICAL CRISIS. HE WARNED VOLTANS NOT TO EXPECT

THE IMPOSSIBLE AND SAID THAT POLITICAL REFORMS WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY BE APPROVED WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN A CLIMATE OF "ORDER AND DESCipline". AFTER THE PRESIDENT'S DECLARATION, A PRESIDENTIAL DECREE, ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATIONS OF ALL THE MINISTERS WAS READ OVER THE LOCAL RADIO AND TELEVISION.

3. COMMENT: THERE HAS BEEN NO REACTION SO FAR TO THE PRESIDENT'S DECLARATION FROM TRADE UNION LEADERS. IN THEORY, GENERAL STRIKE IS STILL SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 3, 4 AND 5. HOWEVER, THERE APPEARS TO BE LITTLE ENTHUSIASM AMONG SALARIED WORKERS AND CIVIL SERVANTS FOR A GENERAL STRIKE AT THIS STAGE, AND IT IS GENERALLY EXPECTED THAT THE STRIKE WILL BE CANCELLED.

GRAHAM

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